

Rohypnol (Roofies)

Date Rape Drug Fact Sheet

Street Names:

Roofies, Ruffies, Roche, R-Z, Rib, Rope, Stupify, Shays, Roachies

Description:

- Rohypnol is the brand name of a sleeping pill and is a benzodiazepine (Valium is also a benzodiazepine).
- Rohypnol can be addictive.
- Rohypnol is taken orally as a pill or dissolved in liquids, often with drugs or alcohol.
- Rohypnol is not marketed in the United States and it is a felony to possess this drug in the US. It is marketed in Mexico, South America, Europe, and Asia.

Side effects:

- Can be addictive
- Decreased blood pressure
- Loss of memory
- Tiredness
- Problems with vision
- Dizziness and confusion
- Nervousness
- Aggressive behavior



Side effects begin approximately 30 minutes after taking the drug and peak within two hours. The effects can last for up to 8 hours, depending on how much is taken.

When taken with alcohol or any depressant drug, Rohypnol can cause death.

Uses:

The most common and concerning abuse is use by rapists, who slip the drug into a victim's drink (usually alcohol) before raping or sexually assaulting them. Rohypnol leaves the victim helpless, and blocks the memory of a rape or sexual assault.

Get help!

If you think you may have been drugged or sexually assaulted, help is available. Contact the Health and Wellness Center or call the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1.800.656.HOPE.

Sources:

"Date Rape Drug Fact Sheet: Rohypnol and GHB", Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, Harvard University

"How to Prevent Drug Induced Rape", Pamphlet by Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Florida.

"Gamma Hydroxybutyrate", Wothington, E., Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Florida.

"Drug Fact Sheet: GHB", Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, Cambridge, MA

GHB (Gamma Hydroxybutyrate)

Date Rape Drug Fact Sheet

Street Names:

There are more than 80 known names for GHB, including Liquid E, Liquid X, Grievous Bodily Harm, Woman's Viagra, Easy Lay, Gamma 10, and Salty Water

Description:

GHB can be produced as a white powder but is more often in the form of an odorless, clear liquid. It has a salty or chemical taste which is easily masked in an alcoholic beverage. GHB is sold on the street as a drug that "increases sexual awareness" and leads to "more intense sexual activity".

Side effects:

Low dosage:

- Feeling of well-being similar to being mildly drunk
- Decreased inhibitions
- Increased sociability
- Drowsiness or falling asleep

High dosage:

- Immediate intoxication
- Deep, unresponsive sleep
- Shallow breathing
- Decreased blood pressure
- Memory loss



When taken with alcohol or any depressant drug, GHB can cause death.

Uses:

A common abuse of GHB is by rapists slipping the drug into a victim's drink, usually alcohol, before raping or sexually assaulting them. Within a few moments, the victim appears drunk and helpless. Often, the perpetrator acts as a "Good Samaritan" and offers to escort the victim home. When the victim regains consciousness, she or he has no memory of the assault.

GHB is also commonly used by body builders because they think (falsely) that GHB increases growth hormone levels and burns fat. Attendees at dance clubs or "rave" parties use GHB to alter mood.

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